

market. The software of the present invention operate as a plug-in to a users web browser and directs a user with a record company's CD to a particular section of the central library appropriate for the user's CD.

In another aspect of the present invention, called "CD Watcher" data representative of the users listening habits relative to a record company's CD is transferred to the record company when complementary content is delivered to the user over a network connection.

Alternatively, record companies contributing and maintaining the central library have access to the listening habits of all users who have accessed the central library for complementary content.

In another--;

line 2, change "compact disk" to --distributed media player such as a compact disc--;

line 3, after "use" insert --the term "CD" to refer to all distributed media and--;

line 4, before "DVD" insert --all distributed media players such as--;

line 8, change "musical recordings" to --CD content--;

line 9, delete "audio";

line 10, change "a second" to --another--;

line 13, after "CD" insert --or other distributed media--;

line 16, change "third" to --further--; after "for" insert --determining or--;
before "unique" insert --substantially--;

line 17, change "musical recordings" to --CD or other distributed media content--;

lines 18-21, change "visual" to --supplementary-- (all occurrences);

line 19, change "an audio CD" to --a CD or other distributed media--;

line 20, delete "audio";

lines 22, 24 and 26, after "CD" insert --or other distributed media--.

Page 4, line 1, change "fourth" to --still further--;

line 2, change "musical" to --CD--;

line 3, delete "to"; change "listening." to --playing. A remote host may control distributed media players in multiple remote locations.--

line 10, change "the" to --shared content such as a--;

replace lines 14-23 with the following:

--Fig. 1 is a network diagram of a first embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a flow diagram of the embodiment shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a block diagram of the environment in which the present invention operates.

Fig. 4 is a block diagram of complementary content according to an aspect of the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a flowchart of the synchronization code of the invention.

Fig. 6 is a flowchart of the sequence of operations for connecting the present invention to a chat room.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, an embodiment of the present invention dynamically connects a user playing a CD with a remote host for data exchange. At block 11, the user links to a remote host and requests a download of client 26. To receive the download the user must provide some basic information, name, email, chat name, etc. The registration information is exchanged for client 26 at block 11A. At block 10A user computer 10 is running computer program 12 such as a browser with client 26. At block 30A insertion of CD

30 into player 32 triggers action by client 26. Client 26 takes control of player 32 and scans CD 30. CD 31 may include time code 31A and other encoded data 31B. Client 26 uses the results of the CD scan to calculate a substantially unique CD ID 31, block 34. Some CDs may contain an ID text file or IRC code, there is no universal standard, thus an ID calculation technique may yield a useful ID with any CD. This technique may create a pattern match 31F by sampling a subset of the content of CD 30 and using the sample to create a substantially unique fingerprint 31F of CD 30. While client 26 is calculating CD ID 31, at block 36 use demographic data 62 is also collected and temporarily stored by client 26.

Use demographic data 62 includes but is not limited to CD use profiles including most used tracks, total time of use, most used CDs, average length of time computer 10 is running, software loaded, most used software, software running concurrently with client and the like.

Calculation of a CD ID 31 stimulates client 26 to direct computer program 12 to check a local cache for CD ID 31. IF CD ID 31 is not present in the local cache client 26 links to lookup server 40 at block 38. If computer program 12 is not already running, client 26 may launch it. Once the link to look-up server 40 is established, client 26 sends CD ID 31 to look-up server 40. Look-up server 40 compares CD ID 31 against table 42. Table 42 is a look-up table linking CD IDs with some associated content and with particular addresses having complementary content. Other information such as timing and control data, electronic coupons, advertisements and bonus content such as video with timing and control data may also be contained in table 42. At block 44, look-up

server 40 sends information such as address 46 to the user in response to receipt of CD ID 31. The information sent to the user may or may not be based on the user demographic data and use demographic data 62 sent to look-up server 40. At block 48 client 26 establishes a link to address 46. Address 46 may be a premium or subscription site such as site 51A in which case CD ID 31 may operate as a password.

In one aspect of the present invention, content suppliers 51-56 such as record companies 1-6 respectively, maintain a central library 50 on the web. Content suppliers may also include advertisers, CD retailers, and other content rights holders. Central library 50 may be on a single server such as look-up server 40 or it may be distributed. Central library 50 contains the complementary content sites such as site 51A linked by the addresses in table 42 such as address 46. Each content supplier 51-56 may change the content of their site and add new links to additional sites as new CDs are released. As new sites are added, new CD IDs and linked addresses are added to table 42.

At block 49A, server 58 hosting site 51A transfers complementary content 60 to the user's computer 10. Once the user is linked to site 51A, client 26 sends stored use demographic data 62 and CD status data 64 to look-up server 40 and or server 58. At block 66 client 26 continues to update and transfer use demographic data 62 and CD status data 64 to lookup server 40 and or server 58 as long as client 26 is running. Closed loop update 70 permits a content supplier, such as content suppliers 51-56, a real-time or near real-time look at which CDs are in use and relative frequency of use of CD elements and related information. Closed loop update 70 also provides control of distributed media playing on a users computer

10. A removal or change of CD at block 68 would return the client to block 30A.

In another embodiment, this invention operates on the World Wide Web.--

Page 5, delete lines 1-3;

line 4, delete "1996)."; change "must be" to --on the web is--.

line 10, change "As shown in **Fig. 1**, a Web" to --Referring now to Fig. 3, a--; before "and" insert --10--;

line 11, change "called a browser." to --12 such as a browser or other client software.--; after "requests" insert --14--;

line 12, change "servers." to --servers such as server 16.--;

line 14, change "(URL's)," to --(URLs)--;

line 16, after "responses" insert --18--;

line 20, change "(HTML)." to --(HTML) such as pages 20 and 22.--;

line 22, change "URL's," to --URLs--;

line 25, change "animation." to --animation as discussed below for Fig. 4.--;

line 27, change "the two most" to --two currently--.

Page 6, line 16, delete "**2. Command Plug-In**";

line 17, after "A" insert --currently--; before "invention" insert --present--;

line 18, change "plug-in," to --plug-in 24,--; before "in" insert --and monitor--;

line 19, change "musical" to --CD--;

line 20, change "provide," to --provide and monitor,--.

Page 7, line 2, change "provided," to --provided and monitored,--;

line 3, change "provide." to --accommodate. The monitored functions are included in use demographic data 62 which is transferred to server 40 and or servers such as server 58.--;

line 4, change "is preferably" to --may be--;

line 10, change "the currently preferred embodiment," to --one embodiment of the present invention,--;

line 11, delete "is"; change "on" to --is--;

line 12, change "95," to --95 or Windows CE,--

line 19, change "seeks," to --"seeks",--;

line 20, delete "the" (both occurrences); change "command-plug in" to --command plug-in 24--;

line 21, change "machine" to --computer 10--; delete "the" (both occurrences); change "plug-in" to --command plug-in 24--;

line 22, change "machine" to --computer 10--;

Page 8, line 2, change "musical recording" to --CD--;

line 6, delete "3. Synchronization";

line 8, change "a musical" to --the content of a CD--;

line 9, delete "recording";

line 10, change "visual" to --complementary--;

line 11, delete "audio";

line 12, change "In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the" to --Referring now to Figs. 4 and 5,--; change "visual" to --complementary--;

line 13, delete "audio"; change "The visual content is" to --For example, complementary content 60 may be--;

line 14, change "a" to --animation such as--; change "which" to --including frames F1-Fn and script 72. Complementary content 60--

line 20, after "played," insert --script 72 such as--; after "frame" insert --Fn--;

line 22, change "musical recording," to --CD content,--;

lines 24 and 26, delete "audio".

Page 9, line 2, delete "audio";

line 7, change "In a variant form of" to --Referring now to Fig 4, the--; change "(shown in Fig. 2), the" to --may control individual--;

line 8, change "of the animation are arranged into" to --or--; change "A" to --Complementary content 60 includes frames F1-Fn and script 72. At block 200, a--;

line 9, change "such" to --frame Fn or--; delete "the audio";

line 10, change "recording (box 200 in **Fig. 2**)."

to --CD 30.--; after "frame" insert --Fn--; change "animation, the audio" to --animation block 205,--;

line 11, delete "play"; after "position" insert --of CD 30--; change "(box 210)." to --, block 210.--; after "done" insert --at block 215--; delete "audio";

line 12, delete "play"; after "position" insert --of CD 30--;

line 13, delete "(box 215)"; change "audio play position" to --position of CD 30--;

line 14, delete "(box";

line 15, change "**230**)." to --block 230.--; change "audio play position" to --position of CD 30--; change "then" to --at blocks 220 and 225--;

line 16, change "audio is (boxes 220 and" to --CD is.--

line 17, delete "**225**).".

line 18, delete "4. Unique Identifiers for Audio CDs";

line 19, before "invention" insert --present invention is a touring mode. With client 26 in touring mode, a remote device such as server 58 may control one or more user devices through delivery of complimentary content 60 interspersed with player 26 control data to provide the one or more users with a guided tour of a particular distributed media such as CD 30.

A still further aspect of the--; delete "the" (last occurrence);

line 20, change "plug-in," to --plug-in 24,--; change "an audio CD" to --a CD, CD ID 31,--;

line 21, change "player." to --player 32.--.

Page 10, line 25, change "A unique identifier for a musical recording" to --CD ID 31--;

line 26, after "site" insert --such as site 52A--;

line 27, delete "the particular"; before "can" insert --2-.

Page 11, line 3, after "searching" insert --,--; change "the unique identifier" to --CD ID 31--; after "invention" insert --,--; after "be" insert --a--;

line 4, change "the computer's CD drive" to --player 32--;

line 5, change "information" to --information, for example CD 30.--; change "the CD" to --CD 30--;

line 6, change "the unique identifier" to --CD ID 31--; change "the CD" to --CD 30--;

line 7, change "the server. The server" to --server 58. Server 58--;

line 8, change "that unique identifier." to --CD ID 31.--;

line 9, delete "audio";

line 10, change "the songs," to --songs on the CD,--

lines 12 and 17, change "an audio" to --a--;

line 24, delete "5. Chat Rooms Connected With Musical Recordings";

line 25, change "A third" to --Another--.

Page 12, line 1, change "The prevailing" to --One conventional--;

line 11, change "3)." to --5).--.

Page 13, line 20, delete "preferred"; delete "as".

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **AMEND** the claims as follows:

2. (TWICE AMENDED) A method of [transferring] obtaining information associated with playback of [a recording] recordings at a first device connectable to a second device via a network, comprising:

collecting use data associated with [the] a recording, fixed in a medium
5 possessed by a user, at the first device [regardless of whether the first and second devices are connected; establishing a connection between the first and second devices after the recording has been obtained] ; and